AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listing of the claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Dashboard assembly comprising:

- a structural element extending in a direction of elongation, said structural element including flanges which are ~~being~~ an integral part of the structural element and ~~extending~~ extend in a longitudinal direction substantially perpendicular ~~perpendicularly~~ to the direction of elongation and substantially horizontal,

- releasable retaining means, and

- a housing connected to the flanges by way of said releasable retaining means and extending in the longitudinal direction, wherein,

~~in order:~~

~~* to permit the displacement of the housing relative to the flanges under the action of a load, greater than a determined threshold, exerted in a longitudinal direction which is substantially perpendicular to the direction of elongation and substantially horizontal, and~~

~~* to hold the housing in position relative to the flanges when the housing is subjected to loads lower than the given threshold in the longitudinal direction~~

- when the housing is subjected to loads lower than a given threshold in the longitudinal direction, said retaining means holds the housing in position relative to the flanges, and

- when the housing is subjected to loads higher than the given threshold in the longitudinal direction, said retaining means allow the displacement of the housing relative to the flanges under action of said loads, and, after slight translation of the housing relative to the flanges, release the housing.

2. (original) Assembly according to claim 1, wherein the releasable retaining means comprise two radially open bores which are substantially Ω -shaped and which are resiliently deformable, and two studs (28b) which are inserted tightly in the bores.

3. (original) Assembly according to claim 2, wherein the bores have a radial opening directed slightly upwards.

4. (original) Assembly according to claim 2, wherein the releasable retaining means also comprise a curved rail which extends the Ω-shaped bores in such a manner as to guide the studs.

5. (original) Assembly according to claim 2, wherein the bores are moulded with the flanges.

6. (original) Assembly according to claim 1, characterized in that:

- the housing extends in the longitudinal direction between a front end and a rear end,
- the releasable retaining means comprise a front portion disposed in the vicinity of the front end and a rear portion separate from the front portion and disposed in the vicinity of the rear end.

7. (original) Assembly according to claim 1, wherein the determined load threshold beyond which the releasable retaining means permit the displacement of the housing is from 10 newtons to 100 newtons.

8. (original) Vehicle comprising a passenger space containing an assembly according to claim 1 and a front engine compartment separated from the passenger space by a bulkhead, wherein there is a space separating the flanges from the bulkhead.

9. (original) Vehicle according to claim 8, wherein the flanges are spaced from the bulkhead by at least 30 millimetres.

10. (new) Assembly according to claim 4, wherein, when the housing is subjected to loads higher than the given threshold in the longitudinal direction, the studs are released from the bores and are guided along the rail so that the housing tilts downwards by pivoting about the studs, and the studs then move in translation along the rail before exiting therefrom and being completely released.

11. (new) Dashboard assembly comprising:

- a structural element extending in a direction of elongation,

- flanges being an integral part of the structural element and extending substantially perpendicularly to the direction of elongation,

- a housing connected to the flanges by way of releasable retaining means, in order:

i) to permit the displacement of the housing relative to the flanges under the action of a load, greater than a determined threshold, exerted in a longitudinal direction which is substantially perpendicular to the direction of elongation and substantially horizontal, and

ii) to hold the housing in position relative to the flanges when the housing is subjected to loads lower than the given threshold in the longitudinal direction,

wherein the releasable retaining means comprise two radially open bores which are substantially Ω-shaped and which are resiliently deformable, and two studs (28b) which are inserted tightly in the bores.

12. (new) Assembly according to claim 11, wherein the bores have a radial opening directed slightly upwards.

13. (new) Assembly according to claim 11, wherein the releasable retaining means also comprise a curved rail which extends the Ω-shaped bores in such a manner as to guide the studs.

14. (new) Assembly according to claim 13, wherein, when the housing is subjected to loads higher than a given threshold in the longitudinal direction, the studs are released from the bores and are guided along the rail so that the housing tilts downwards by pivoting about the studs, and the studs then move in translation along the rail before exiting therefrom and being completely released.

15. (new) Assembly according to claim 11, wherein the bores are moulded with the flanges.

16. (new) Assembly according to claim 11, wherein the determined load threshold beyond which the releasable retaining means permit the displacement of the housing is from 10 newtons to 100 newtons.

17. (new) Dashboard assembly comprising:

- a structural element extending in a direction of elongation,

- flanges being an integral part of the structural element and extending substantially perpendicularly to the direction of elongation,

- a housing connected to the flanges by way of releasable retaining means, in order:

i) to permit the displacement of the housing relative to the flanges under the action of a load, greater than a determined threshold, exerted in a longitudinal direction which is substantially perpendicular to the direction of elongation and substantially horizontal, and

ii) to hold the housing in position relative to the flanges when the housing is subjected to loads lower than the given threshold in the longitudinal, wherein,

the housing extends in the longitudinal direction between a front end and a rear end, and

the releasable retaining means comprise a front portion disposed in the vicinity of the front end and a rear portion separate from the front portion and disposed in the vicinity of the rear end.

18. (new) Assembly according to claim 17, wherein the determined load threshold beyond which the releasable retaining means permit the displacement of the housing is from 10 newtons to 100 newtons.

19. (new) Vehicle comprising a passenger space containing an assembly according to claim 17 and a front engine compartment separated from the passenger space by a bulkhead, wherein there is a space separating the flanges from the bulkhead.

20. (new) Vehicle according to claim 19, wherein the flanges are spaced from the bulkhead by at least 30 millimetres.